

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Devlin et al

Docket: 2000P59112US02

Filed: February 5, 2004

Group Art Unit: 1797

Serial No.: 10/773,079

Examiner: Gakh, Yelena G.

Title: Method of Storing and Reprocessing  
Patient Specimens in an Automatic Analyzer

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Examiner's Final Office Action dated December 3, 2008, in which claims 1-2, 4-6 and 8-10 were rejected. Applicants respectfully request entry of this communication after final and reconsideration of claim 8. In the alternative, Applicants respectfully request entry of this communication in order to present rejected claim in better form for consideration on appeal.